

## REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 6, 7, and 9-14 are currently pending in this application. By this paper, claim 1 has been amended. In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, Applicant requests reconsideration of the case.

In the Office Action, claims 1-4, 6, 7, and 9-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first and second paragraphs. By this paper, claim 1 has been amended to indicate that in step (c) hydrogen is separated from a part of the steam reforming product of step (b) and another part of the steam reforming product of step (b) is fed to step (a). Applicant believes that the amendments to claim 1 overcome the 112 rejections raised in the Office Action.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that all of the claims are in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner find any impediment to the prompt allowance of the case which could be corrected by a telephone interview with the undersigned, the Examiner is requested to initiate such an interview.

Respectfully submitted,

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